

Taking Gathered Worship Home

The Scriptures warn us that not only is idolatry disastrously wrong, but that “those who make them become like them ...” That is, mute, deaf, impotent, dead. In this showdown between Elijah and the priests of Baal, we see that borne out. Not only is their false god exposed, all Baal’s followers are wiped out. Yet God shows lovingkindness to idolaters like us, raising us to life through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus enabling us to *walk in newness of life* through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **First Kings 18:1-46; Joshua 24:14-15; Psalm 68:1-35; 115:4-8; Jeremiah 10:1-5; Isaiah 44:9-20.** DISCUSS Why does the authority of Jesus matter? Where did His authority come from? Why would He not tell these religious leaders? How do we often question His authority? SERVE someone in need. MEDITATE on **Galatians 5:16.** PRAY “Jesus, forgive us for our audacity. Teach us to not only recognize and submit to Your authority, but to love You as our Sovereign.”

Monday

READ **First Kings 18:1-46; Joshua 24:14-15.** DISCUSS What does idolatry look like in our lives today? How has Jesus rescued us from our slavery to dead, mute idols? MEDITATE on **Galatians 5:16.** PRAY, “Jesus, thank You for freeing us from the tyranny of self-destruction. Enable us to walk in Your truth and experience life.”

Tuesday

READ **First Kings 18:1-46; Psalm 115:4-8.** DISCUSS How does the Scripture describe idols? Why is serving them so problematic? How are you actively putting to death the idolatry of your heart? SERVE by considering someone else’s needs *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Galatians 5:16.** PRAY, “Lord Jesus, forgive us for giving anyone or anything the praise, honor, and devotion that only You deserve. Free our hearts of all lesser affections that we might be devoted to You alone!”

Wednesday

READ **First Kings 18:1-46; Jeremiah 10:1-5; Psalm 115:4-8**. DISCUSS Are you hearing the Word of the Lord from Jeremiah today? How do you need to trust His promises to do so? By faith, bow before Him! MEDITATE on **Galatians 5:16**. PRAY, “Lord, embolden us to live lives of whole-hearted devotion to You.”

Thursday

READ **First Kings 18:1-46; Isaiah 44:9-20; Psalm 115:4-8**. DISCUSS Given the idiocy of idolatry, why do we do it? Ask the Lord to reveal to you ways that you are currently ensnared with idols and for His power to free you. SERVE by demonstrating God’s tenderness! MEDITATE on **Galatians 5:16**. PRAY, “Lord, please enable us to serve You as we should free from idolatry.”

Friday

READ **First Kings 18:1-46; Joshua 24:14-15; Psalm 68:1-35; 115:4-8; Jeremiah 10:1-5; Isaiah 44:9-20**. DISCUSS How has the Holy Spirit been guiding you *this week through these passages*? MEDITATE on **Galatians 5:16**. PRAY that we at FCCW would *be delighted in Christ*.

Saturday

PREPARE today for *gathered worship tomorrow*. READ **Mark 12:1-44**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for Sunday School at **9:00** and the **10:30** worship service. Ask the Lord to *make us more like Jesus*.

Meditate on Galatians 5:16

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.